

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TOKYO 16278 130838Z

21

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SP-02 AID-05 EB-07 NSC-05

CIEP-01 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 COME-00

OPIC-03 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 SAM-01 L-03 /077 W

----- 118374

R 130800Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4843

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 16278

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN PO

SUBJ: JAPANESE ASSETS IMPOUNDED IN PORTUGAL

REF: STATE 266228

SUMMARY: JAPANESE FOREIGN MINISTRY HAS ADVISED EMBASSY THAT THIS WOULD NOT BE A GOOD TIME TO PURSUE THE QUESTION OF JAPANESE ASSETS IMPOUNDED IN PORTUGAL BECAUSE OF CURRENT CONFUSED SITUATION IN PORTUGUESE TIMOR. END SUMMARY.

1. ECON COUNSELOR RAISED QUESTION OF JAPANESE ASSETS IMPOUNDED IN PORTUGAL PER REFTEL WITH SECOND NORTH AMERICA DIV DIR SAITO AND SECOND WEST EUROPE DIV DEP DIR IJUN ON NOVEMBER 12. AFTER CONSIDERING THE MATTER CAREFULLY, JAPANESE ADVISED THAT THEY WOULD NOT FAVOR ANY ACTION NOW ON THESE ASSETS.

2. POSITION OF FOREIGN MINISTRY IN PRINCIPLE IS THAT TRANSFER OF ASSETS OUGHT TO BE ARRANGED WITHOUT DELAY EVEN THOUGH PORTUGUESE MIGHT RAISE CLAIMS ARISING FROM JAPANESE WARTIME OCCUPATION OF PORTUGUESE TIMOR.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 TOKYO 16278 130838Z

FOREIGN MINISTRY WOULD CLEARLY PREFER TO TAKE UP AND

SETTLE SUCH CLAIMS IN DUE COURSE RATHER THAN AVOID THEM.

3. MINISTRY OF FINANCE IS CONCERNED THAT SEEKING TO GAIN CONTROL OF ASSETS WOULD RAISE NEW CLAIMS WHICH COULD BE SEVERAL TIMES AS LARGE.

4. RECENT POLITICAL STRUGGLES IN TIMOR ARE ANOTHER FACTOR WHICH JAPANESE MAY BE USING AS AN EXCUSE FOR ASKING US NOT TO PURSUE THIS ACTION. SAITO NOTES FURTHER THAT THE DISAGREEMENT BETWEEN HIS MINISTRY AND FINANCE MINISTRY OVER THE IMPOUNDED ASSETS IS LONGSTANDING, AND HE PESSIMISTICALLY CONCLUDES THAT IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO SETTLE EVEN IF POLITICAL SITUATION IN TIMOR WERE STABLE. HIS IS FULLY AWARE OF THE FACT THAT POSSIBLE PORTUGUESE RECOGNITION OF THE PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF CHINA COULD GREATLY COMPLICATE THE ISSUE. NEVERTHELESS, JAPANESE HAVE ASKED US TO TAKE NO ACTION FOR THE PRESENT. ECON COUNSELOR INFORMED SAITO THAT HIS REQUEST WOULD BE TRANSMITTED AND, IF ACCEPTED, BALL WOULD THEN CLEARLY BE IN JAPANESE COURT. HODGSON

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BLOCKED ASSETS, POLICIES, BANK ACCOUNTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 NOV 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: buchandr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975TOKYO16278
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: DG ALTERED
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750395-0201
From: TOKYO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751148/aaaabrzbz.tel
Line Count: 81
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 266228
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: buchandr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 JUN 2003 by WorrelSW>; APPROVED <22 OCT 2003 by buchandr>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: JAPANESE ASSETS IMPOUNDED IN PORTUGAL
TAGS: EFIN, PO, JA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006